

the party may owe him ; his nomination will not contribute to the healing of the differences among us. On the contrary, it will present a new bone of contention and widen the breach.

That many of the judgments against the railroads in recent years are grotesquely ridiculous in their injustice cannot be denied. Attorneys for the plaintiffs in many cases privately admit as much. This fact is well-known to court officers, attorneys and the sufferers ; but I am satisfied that the great body of honest and honorable citizens of North Carolina is not familiar with the extent to which this robbery under the form of law has been carried, I believe it is a fact that the Atlantic Coast Line had to pay a judgment of \$500 because one of its trains ran over a drunken negro lying on its tracks about midnight ; a much larger sum, \$12,000, because one of its station agents shot his own brother or brother-in-law in or near the company's depot, on account of a family brawl that had been kept up for years. The Seaboard Air Line had to pay \$2,000 or thereabouts, for a three-year-old negro child's arm, after the engineer had begged the child's mother to keep it from playing on the track. The case against another railroad because a conductor struck an unruly trespasser who had been ejected from the train and who applied an unmentionably filthy epithet to the conductor, is well-known. A passenger recovered \$2,000 because her knee was bumped by a valise in the hands of another passenger. There are other cases now pending in our courts, claiming damages so enormously out of proportion to the alleged injury that the mere mention of the case provokes smiles. Of some of these, and the demoralizing, debauching tendency of this easy road to wealth I may have something to say at another time.

This "new line of decisions" has so changed the conditions of employment of labor by transportation companies that their employees now practically secure insurance with their work ; insurance not simply against death, but in-